

File 19

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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COUNTRY USSR

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POSTAGE

1. Mail addressed to Soviet EM was sent free, and EM could send mail to their families and friends without charge.
2. Officers were supposed to pay postage on their outgoing mail, and all mail addressed to officers was supposed to be stamped. In reality, however, officers put no stamps on their letters and they were delivered to addressees free of charge. Letters without stamps addressed to the officers were delivered without charge.

CENSORSHIP

3. [redacted] the MGB had secret organizations posing as civilian units who intercepted and censored mail to and from people suspected of anti-state activities. The location, organization and personnel of such units were "Top Secret". The offices were called "Signal Junctions" (Uzly Svyaza) or Central Sorting Stations (Tsentralnyye Sortirovochnyye Stantsii). The letters were steamed open and closed in such a manner that the addressee did not suspect that his mail had been intercepted and censored, nor were the envelopes marked with a censor's stamp.
4. Except for suspects, mail within the USSR was not censored. However, all mail to and from the USSR, and to and from troops stationed outside of USSR, was censored and marked with a censor's stamp.

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